

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

IN RE WILLIE WEAVER,
Plaintiff.

No. C 14-0046 RS (PR)
No. C 14-2823 RS (PR)
No. C 14-2906 RS (PR)
No. C 14-3019 RS (PR)
No. C 14-3148 RS (PR)
No. C 14-3149 RS (PR)
No. C 14-3307 RS (PR)
No. C 14-3308 RS (PR)
No. C 14-3967 RS (PR)

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY
PAUPER STATUS IS NOT BARRED**

Plaintiff, a state prisoner and frequent litigant in federal court, has filed the above proposed civil rights complaints under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 along with motions to proceed *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915. Plaintiff is ordered to show cause on or before December 1, 2014 why 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g) does not bar pauper status in each action.

The Prison Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides that a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil judgment under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or

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1 appeal in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous,
2 malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is
3 under imminent danger of serious physical injury.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g). “Section 1915(g)’s
4 cap on prior dismissed claims applies to claims dismissed both before and after the [PLRA’s]
5 effective date.” *Tierney v. Kupers*, 128 F.3d 1310, 1312 (9th Cir. 1997).

6 Under the law of this Circuit, plaintiff must be afforded an opportunity to persuade the
7 court that § 1915(g) does not bar pauper status for him. *See Andrews v. King*, 398 F.3d 1113,
8 1120 (9th Cir. 2005). *Andrews* requires that the prisoner be given notice of the potential
9 applicability of § 1915(g), by either the district court or the defendants, but also requires the
10 prisoner to bear the ultimate burden of persuasion that § 1915(g) does not bar pauper status
11 for him. *Id.* *Andrews* implicitly allows the Court to raise *sua sponte* the § 1915(g) problem,
12 but requires the Court to notify the prisoner of the earlier dismissals it considers to support a
13 § 1915(g) dismissal and allow the prisoner an opportunity to be heard on the matter before
14 dismissing the action. *Id.* A dismissal under § 1915(g) means that a prisoner cannot proceed
15 with his action as a pauper under § 1915(g), but he still may pursue his claims if he pays the
16 full filing fee at the outset of the action.

17 Here, plaintiff has had at least three prior prisoner actions or appeals dismissed
18 by a federal court on the grounds that they are frivolous, malicious, or fail to state a claim
19 upon which relief may be granted. *See* (1) *Weaver v. Pelican Bay State Prison*, No. C 04-
20 3077 JW (PR) (N.D. Cal. May 18, 2005) (civil rights action dismissed for failure to state a
21 claim upon which relief may be granted); (2) *Weaver v. Nimrod*, No. C 04-3154 JW (PR)
22 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 14, 2004) (same); (3) *Weaver v. Pelican Bay State Prison Mail Room*,
23 No. C 04-4784 JW (PR) (N.D. Cal. Jan. 5, 2005) (same); and (4) *Weaver v. Daniel*,
24 No. C 05-1373 JW (PR) (N.D. Cal. May 9, 2005) (same).

25 These strikes are presumed valid. Plaintiff has had many recent opportunities to
26 challenge the Court’s determination that these prior actions are strikes, and he has failed to
27 do so effectively. Plaintiff therefore may proceed *in forma pauperis* only if he is seeking
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1 relief from a danger of serious physical injury which is “imminent” at the time of filing. *See*
2 *Abdul-Akbar v. McKelvie*, 239 F.3d 307, 312 (3d Cir. 2001) (en banc); *Medberry v. Butler*,
3 185 F.3d 1189, 1192-93 (11th Cir. 1999); *Ashley v. Dilworth*, 147 F.3d 715, 717 (8th Cir.
4 1998); *Banos v. O’Guin*, 144 F.3d 883, 885 (5th Cir. 1998).

5 In light of these dismissals, and because plaintiff does not appear to be under
6 imminent danger of serious physical injury, the Court now orders plaintiff to show cause why
7 *in forma pauperis* should not be denied and each action should not be dismissed pursuant to
8 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g). **Plaintiff’s response to this order to show cause is due no later than**
9 **December 1, 2014.** The response must clearly be labeled “RESPONSE TO ORDER TO
10 SHOW CAUSE.” In the alternative to showing cause why each action should not be
11 dismissed, plaintiff may avoid dismissal by paying the full filing fee of \$400.00 in each
12 action by the deadline. **Failure to file a response by December 1, 2014 or failure to pay**
13 **the full filing fee will result in the dismissal of each action without prejudice to bringing**
14 **his claims in new paid complaints.**

15 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

16 DATED: October 20, 2014

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18 RICHARD SEEBORG
19 United States District Judge
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